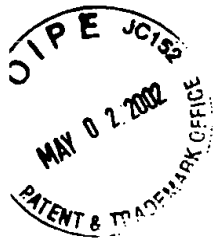


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Serial No. 09/773,782



IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Application of

R. G. Rowe et al.

Serial No. 09/773,782

Filed: February 2, 2001

For Creep Resistant Zirconium Alloy and
Nuclear Fuel Cladding Incorporating Said
Alloy

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: Group Art Unit:
: Examiner:

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GROUP 3600

Election # 5
G. B. Jones
05/13/02

REPLY TO EXAMINER'S RESTRICTION REQUIREMENT

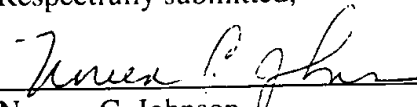
United States Patent and Trademark Office
Washington, DC 20231

S I R:

This is a response to the Office Action mailed April 16, 2002. A restriction requirement was made between I. Claims 1-7 drawn to a product subcombination (creep Resistant Zirconium alloy), classified in class 376, subclass 900, II. Claims 10-13, drawn to a process (manufacturing creep-resistant zirconium alloy), classified in class 148, subclass 237 and III. Claims 8, 9 and 14-17 drawn to product combination (fuel cladding made of zirconium alloy, classified in class 376, subclass 416.

Claims 1-7 are elected for prosecution on the merits with traverse.

Respectfully submitted,


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Schenectady, New York
4/23, 2002